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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,087	03/25/2004	Gerd M. Ritter	15609-030001/2004P00043	7663
32864 7590 04/04/2007 FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C. PO BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			U EXAMINER LEWIS, ALICIA M	
			ART UNIT 2164	PAPER NUMBER

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/04/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/809,087

Applicant(s)

RITTER ET AL.

Examiner

Alicia M. Lewis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to communication filed January 19, 2007. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10 and 12-19 have been amended, and claims 6, 7 and 20-28 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-5 and 8-19 are pending in this application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5 and 8-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Swan (US Patent Application Publication 2004/0093317 A1).

With respect to claims 1, 16 and 17, Swan teaches:

accepting a search request from a single text-entry field of a user interface associated with a database, the search request comprising a plurality of text characters, wherein one or more of the text characters specify a first name identifier, one or more of the text characters specify a second name identifier, and one or more of the text characters specify a relationship between the first name identifier and the second name identifier (Figures 9A and 10, paragraphs 93, 104-105);

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using the search request to retrieve one or more search results, wherein each search result contains the first name identifier, the second name identifier, and information representing the specified relationship between the first name identifier and the second name identifier (paragraphs 123 and 149); and

displaying in the user interface the first name identifier for each search result in textual form (Figure 11, paragraph 133).

Regarding Figure 10, Swan teaches a plurality of search criteria that may be entered. The first name represents the first name identifier, the company name represents the second name identifier and the position and/or address information specifies a relationship between the first and second identifiers.

With respect to claim 2, Swan teaches wherein the method further comprises displaying in the user interface information representing the specified relationship between the first name identifier and the second name identifier for each search result in textual form (Figure 11, paragraph 133).

With respect to claims 3 and 18, Swan teaches wherein the method comprises using the search request to retrieve the one or more search results from an external database system (Figures 1 and 2, paragraphs 81 and 83).

With respect to claim 4, Swan teaches wherein the external database system contains additional information (element 166 in Figure 5, paragraph 66).

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With respect to claim 5 and 19, Swan teaches wherein the method comprises using the search request to retrieve the one or more search results from a memory (paragraphs 81 and 201).

With respect to claim 8, Swan teaches wherein the second name identifier is a personal name identifier, wherein the specified relationship is a contact relationship, and wherein the first name identifier is an organizational identifier (Figure 10, paragraphs 104 and 120-121).

With respect to claim 9, Swan teaches wherein one or more of the text characters specify a third name identifier, wherein one or more of the text characters specify a second relationship between the second name identifier and the third name identifier, and wherein the method comprises using the search request to retrieve one or more search results that each contain the third name identifier and information representing the second specified relationship between the second name identifier and the third name identifier (Figure 10, paragraph 104, paragraphs 127-128).

With respect to claim 10, Swan teaches wherein one or more of the text characters specify a third name identifier, wherein one or more of the text characters specify a second relationship between the first name identifier and the third name identifier, and wherein the method comprises using the search request to retrieve one or more search results that each contain the third name identifier and information

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representing the second specified relationship between the first name identifier and the third name identifier (Figure 10, paragraph 104, paragraph 120 lines 3-4).

With respect to claim 11, Swan teaches wherein the third name identifier is a location name identifier, and wherein the second specified relationship is a location relationship (Figure 10, paragraph 104, paragraph 120 lines 3-4).

The city, Los Angeles, which represents a location relationship to the first identifier (Anderson), may be considered the third name identifier. In this case, Main may be considered the second name identifier. Also, Figure 10 shows several fields, including: address, city, state and zip, which may all be used as location name identifiers.

With respect to claim 12, Swan teaches wherein the first name identifier contains a wildcard character (paragraph 106).

With respect to claim 13, Swan teaches wherein the specified relationship is a working business relationship between the first name identifier and the second name identifier (Figure 10, paragraph 53).

Figure 10 shows that the position may be used to represent a working business relationship between the contact's first name and the company name.

With respect to claim 14, Swan teaches wherein the specified relationship is a location relationship between the first name identifier and the second name identifier (Figure 10).

Figure 10 shows that the address, city, state, suite number, or zip code may all be used to represent a location relationship between the contact's first name and the company name.

With respect to claim 15, Swan teaches wherein the first name identifier is a location name identifier, an organizational name identifier, or a personal name identifier (Figure 10, paragraphs 117, 120 and 127).

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed January 19, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Swan does not teach the first limitation of claims 1, 16 and 17, "accepting a search request from a single text-entry field of a user interface associated with a database, the search request comprising...second name identifier." Examiner disagrees. In Figures 9A and 10, Swan teaches that a search request may be entered in a single text-entry field. The wording of the claim does not require that only one single text-entry field be used to input a search request. Swan also teaches the search request comprising a first name identifier, a second name identifier, and text specifying a relationship between the two name identifiers, as described above.

***Conclusion***

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia M. Lewis whose telephone number is 571-272-5599. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9 - 6:30, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on 571-272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alicia Lewis  
March 27, 2007

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**